

Appln. No. 10/737,313

Attorney Docket No. 8627-454
Client Reference No. PA-5379-CON**III. Remarks**

In addition to the amendments and remarks filed in the Reply dated June 22, 2007 and responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment paper mailed on September 7, 2007, specification paragraph [0045] and claim 27 have been amended. With the amendments and remarks provided herewith, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and a withdrawal of all objections and rejections.

Responsive to item 1(C) of the Notice, the text of paragraph [0045] of the specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Responsive to the item for 1(E), claim 27 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. More specifically, the second to the last line of claim 27 now reads "producing a closing force on the slits after removal of the catheter. . . ." Moreover, as stated in the Reply filed on June 22, 2007, claim 1 was amended to recite that the valve body is configured to be "compressed only along the height dimension" when the valve body is received by the recess. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, in Figures 2, 10, and 12 of the drawings (see arrows 8), and in paragraph [0041] of the specification. In pertinent part, paragraph [0041] states as follows:

Before being compressed, valve body 1 has a height dimension H_2 which is greater than height dimension H_1 of recess 18 as shown in FIG. 2. So that the compression forces on valve body 1 are directed only perpendicularly to slit 2, valve body 1 has a width dimension W_2 which is less than the width dimension W_1 of recess 18. The oblong shape of valve body 1, when assembled into the cannula, applies a slight amount of pressure perpendicular to the slit making certain it closes completely after the removal of the dilator or a catheter. Planar portions 4 allow valve body 1 to expand in its width dimension without interacting with the recess when it is compressed and received within the recess 18.

See specification paragraph [0041] of the present application. Thus, support for the claim language is provided in the present application as filed and no new matter has been added.

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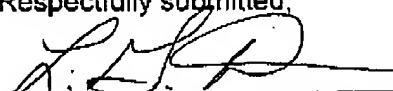
Attorney Docket No. 8627-454
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Thus, claims 1-3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 16, 18-20, 22, 25, and 27 are in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

October 8, 2007

Date



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